

SENATE BILL 2

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SB 683/02 - B&T

2003 Regular Session
3r0264

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Senator Pinsky**
Requested: October 2, 2002
Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2003
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

Committee Report: Favorable
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: February 11, 2003

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public School Construction - Use of Solar Energy - Pilot Program**

3 FOR the purpose of expanding the purpose for which the Interagency Council on
4 Public School Construction may provide certain grants to local boards of
5 education to assist in implementing the use of solar energy systems; altering the
6 types of costs that would qualify for the grants; altering the responsibility of the
7 local boards for certain costs; authorizing the Interagency Council to award
8 certain grants for certain projects with the approval of the Board of Public
9 Works; requiring the Interagency Council and Maryland Energy Administration
10 to cooperate, to assist, to provide technical assistance to, and to advise school
11 systems on certain matters; and generally relating to the pilot program to use
12 solar energy in public school buildings.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article - Education
15 Section 5-301.1
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
19 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

1

Article - Education

2 5-301.1.

3 (a) (1) There is a solar energy pilot program to promote the use of solar
4 energy systems to generate electricity in public school buildings in the State.

5 (2) The pilot program shall be implemented and administered by the
6 Interagency Committee on School Construction and shall operate as provided in this
7 section.

8 (b) The Interagency Committee shall:

9 (1) Encourage all local boards in the State to study, design, and construct
10 or renovate school buildings that are energy efficient and use solar energy systems to
11 generate electricity to meet [a certain percent] SOME of the school building's
12 electrical energy needs, electrical energy demand, or a combination of the electrical
13 energy needs and electrical energy demand;

14 (2) Provide grants out of State funds dedicated for this program to local
15 boards to assist in implementing the use of solar energy systems [in newly
16 constructed] AT EXISTING PUBLIC SCHOOLS OR IN NEW or renovated school
17 [buildings] BUILDING PROJECTS; and

18 (3) Develop a procedure for a local board to apply for a grant in
19 accordance with subsection (c) of this section.

20 (c) (1) A local board may apply to the Interagency Committee for a grant to
21 cover 90% of the [total additional cost of constructing or renovating school buildings
22 to utilize solar energy systems to meet the following percentages of the school
23 buildings' electrical energy needs, electrical energy demand, or a combination of the
24 electrical energy needs and electrical energy demand:

25 (i) For an elementary school, at least 20%;

26 (ii) For a middle school, at least 15%; and

27 (iii) For a high school, at least 10%] COST TO PURCHASE AND
28 INSTALL A SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM TO GENERATE A PORTION OF THE SCHOOL
29 BUILDING'S ELECTRICAL ENERGY NEEDS OR ELECTRICAL ENERGY DEMAND.

30 (2) A local board that receives a grant under this subsection shall pay:

31 (i) 10% of the [total additional costs of constructing or renovating
32 a school building to utilize] COST TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL THE solar energy
33 [systems] SYSTEM; and

34 (ii) All architectural or engineering fees for the design and
35 supervision of the installation of the solar energy [systems] SYSTEM.

1 (3) The Interagency Committee may [not] award a grant under this
2 section for a [public school construction] SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM project [that has
3 not been approved by] WITH THE APPROVAL OF the Board of Public Works.

4 (d) Local school systems are encouraged to seek private funding to implement
5 the pilot program.

6 (e) The total savings of electrical energy needs and electrical energy demand
7 costs that result from the installation and use of solar energy systems under this
8 section shall remain with the local school system.

9 (f) (1) The Interagency Committee and the Maryland Energy
10 Administration shall cooperate with, assist, provide technical assistance to, and
11 advise school systems to identify appropriate EXISTING PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS
12 AND public school construction projects that would benefit from the installation of
13 solar energy systems.

14 (2) The Interagency Committee shall adopt procedures necessary to
15 implement this section.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
17 effect July 1, 2003.